



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/027,045	12/20/2001	Irfan Ali	29250/CE08313R	2215
22917	7590	11/15/2005	EXAMINER	
MOTOROLA, INC. 1303 EAST ALGONQUIN ROAD IL01/3RD SCHAUMBURG, IL 60196			WILSON, ROBERT W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2661	

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. ✓ 10/027,045	Applicant(s) ALI ET AL.	
	Examiner Robert W. Wilson	Art Unit 2661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2001.
 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17, 22 and 23 is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-21 is/are rejected.
 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.0 The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.0 Claims 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morimoto (U.S. Patent Publication No.: US2002/0001315) in view of Fujimori (U.S. Patent No.: 6,243,395)

Morimoto teaches: A method of time synchronization per Fig 2A-4B and Pg 2 Para [0026] Pg 3 Para {0035}. The rest of the preamble was treated as intended use and was given no weight because it did not appear in the body of the claim limitation. Fig 1 receives one of the given data packets per Fig 2B. The time value T2 is read in the header and compared with the time value T1. If T1=T2 or are the same then the time for the packets are determined per Page 2 Para [0026]-Pg 3 Para {0035}

Morimoto does not expressly call for: determining the position of the clock but teaches determination of the time value based upon the comparison of two values.

Fujimori teaches: determining the position of the time clock based removing synchronization information from a header per Fig 6. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add the determination of the time clock of Fujimori to the comparison of time values of Morimoto in order to insure the local clock is in sync with the master system clock.

In addition: Morimoto teaches:

Art Unit: 2661

Regarding claim 19, the applicant broadly claims "unique value". The examiner has interpreted that two time values that are equal is a unique value.

Referring to claim 20, the combination of Morimoto and Fujimori teach: the method of time-synchronization of claim 18. The combination Morimoto and Fujimori does not expressly call for: updating a counter which reflects the position of the clock. Fujimori teaches: updating a PLL or counter which reflects the position of the clock. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add the determination of the time clock of Fujimori to the comparison of Morimoto in order to insure the local clock is in sync with the master system

Referring to claim 21, the combination of Morimoto and Fujimori teach: the method of time-synchronization of claim 18 and Morimoto teaches determining the time at the end of time segment. The combination Morimoto and Fujimori does not expressly call for: updating at least one counter. Fujimori teaches: updating a PLL or counter. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add the determination of the time clock of Fujimori to the comparison of Morimoto in order to insure the local clock is in sync with the master system

Allowable Subject Matter

3.0 The closest prior art is Morimoto (U.S. Patent Publication No.: US2002/0001315) relative to claims 1 & 11 respectively. Morimoto teaches: timing values which are the same or constant in a first timing portion and timing values which are the same in the second timing portion. The timing values are the same in the first and second timing portion.

Art Unit: 2661

Claims 1-10 are allowed.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowable subject matter:

Claims 1-10 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims including “wherein the value is constant for each data packet in the second timing portion and different from the value for each data packet in the first timing portion”, as specified in claim 1.

Claims 11-17 are allowed.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowable subject matter:

Claims 11-17 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims including “one or more subsequent timing portions each including at least two data packets wherein the value is constant for each data packet”, as specified in claim 11.

The closest prior art relative to claim 22 is Slattery (U.S. Patent No.: 6,246,701) and Dokic (U.S. Patent No.; 5,726,989). Slattery teaches: receiving a first data packet and determining a first value in the header and determining the position of the clock based upon the first value. Dokic teaches: that providing a packet length of a MPEG packet is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to combine these references in order to be standards compliant.

Claims 22-23 are allowed.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowable subject matter:

Art Unit: 2661


Claims 22-23 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims including "upon receipt of the second data packet without reading a second value within the header of the second data packet", as specified in claim 22.

Conclusion

4.0 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert W. Wilson whose telephone number is 571/272-3075. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau T. Nguyen can be reached on 571/272-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Robert W Wilson
Examiner
Art Unit 2661

RWW
11/8/05


BOB PHUNKULH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Application/Control Number: 10/027,045

Page 6

Art Unit: 2661